



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BALTIMORE DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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Army Corps awards contract to renovate barracks buildings at Fort Meade, Md.

BALTIMORE — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, awarded a design-build contract Sept. 29, 2008, to HSU Development Inc. of Rockville, Md., to renovate barracks buildings 8478 and 8479 at Fort Meade, Md. The District's Fort Meade Resident Office is in charge of the contract, which includes the first of several phases to renovate barracks at the installation.

Constructed using the design-build approach — in which the contractor executes the design and construction of the project — the barracks to be renovated are located at 6th Armored Cavalry Road behind the McGill Training Center.

The \$21.6 million project will renovate two 38,490 square foot barracks buildings and will feature architectural work, comprehensive interior design services, electrical upgrades and replacement, fire suppression/alarm systems, window replacement/reconfiguration, mold/asbestos/lead abatement, and antiterrorism/force protection measures. The exterior finishes and roofing systems on the barracks buildings will comply with Fort Meade's installation design guide.

This solicitation is the first major project awarded by the Baltimore District as a small business set-aside since the reinstatement of small business set-asides under the Small Business Competitive Demonstration Program. Under the "Comp Demo" Program, small business set-asides were suspended for certain designated industry groups, including construction. However, agencies are required to reinstitute the use of small business set-asides if awards to small businesses fall below a 40 percent participation performance rate, which was the case in fiscal 2007.

During the pre-award stage, the Baltimore District reviewed multiple proposals, and after a careful

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source selection process, HSU Development Inc. was deemed to provide the best value to the government. This is the largest small business set-aside that Baltimore District has been involved in since the pilot program originated in 1999.

Depending on the contractor's design schedule, construction could begin in early 2009. The contract performance period is expected to be 540 days and the two barracks buildings will be completed in spring 2010.

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